

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed prior to initial review of the Application. No changes have been made to the claims.

VERSION SHOWING MARKED CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/864,042, filed May 22, 2001,
which has now matured to U.S. Patent No. _____, which was based on U.S. Provisional
Patent Application Number 60/206,605, filed May 23, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS

No changes have been made to the claims.

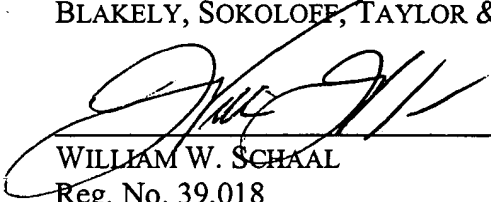
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests examination of these claims at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: November 13, 2001

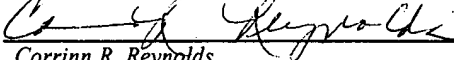


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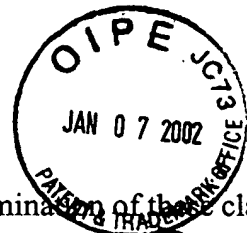
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231 on: November 13, 2001.



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